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ABSTRACT

Based on the view that child development occurs within a relationship involving mutuality and that development and the teaching/learning process are intertwined with the social environment, this book examines the critical relationship between child care providers and the young children they care for and teach. Along with an extended discussion of research on child development and effective caregiving practices, the book provides vignettes depicting child-caregiver interactions and caregivers coming to understand their work. Also included are interviews with child care professionals that provide perspective on why they chose this career and how they face the challenges of work while staying motivated. The chapters are: (1) "Relationships in Out-of-Home Child Care"; (2) "Social-Emotional Development"; (3) "Language and Communication"; (4) "Guidance and Discipline"; (5) "Play, Learning, and Development"; (6) "Social Environment Problems that Have an Impact on Relationships in the Child Care Setting"; and (7) "Personal History, Professional Competence." (Contains 254 references and 214 supplementary reading recommendations.) (KB)

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